

Message Text

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44

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 USIA-15 OPR-02 VOE-00 /031 W
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INFO RECEPTION CENTER HONOLULU

RECEPTION CENTER SAN FRANCISCO

UNCLAS SEOUL 7028

FOR CU/EA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:OEXC, KS

SUBJ: FY-76 TQ FALL-OUT IV NOMINATION: KIM MUN-MU

REF: STATE 215912

1. POST NOMINATES MR. KIM MUN-MU, CHIEF OF PERFORMING ARTS DIVISION AT NATIONAL THEATER, FOR FY-76 TQ FALL-OUT IV GRANT FOR THIRTY-DAY OBSERVATION AND CONSULTATION, FUNCTION 210. THIS NOMINATION IS FOR FULL GRANT.

2. AT NATIONAL THEATER KIM IS FOURTH IN RANK AND SECOND IN IMPORTANCE. THE THEATER HAS BEEN MOST INSTRUMENTAL IN UPGRADING PERFORMING ARTS AND CULTURAL LIFE IN THIS NATION WITH RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE. KIM HAS PLAYED AN ACTIVE AND IMPORTANT ROLE IN THIS EFFORT. BEING CHIEF OF PERFORMING ARTS DIVISION, KIM IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SUPERVISING ALL PRODUCTIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF EIGHT AFFILIATE PERFORMING GROUPS (NATIONAL DRAMA, POERA, DANCE, BALLET, CHORUS, TRADITIONAL OPERA, MUSICEL COMPANIES AND NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA). MANY PERFORMERS IN ABOVE GROUPS ARE OF NATIONAL EMINENCE AND PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN SHAPING KOREAN CULTURAL LIFE. KIM HAS ALSO BEEN MOST HELPFUL TO POST IN PRESENTING MANY OF DEPTS CULTURAL ATTRACIONS AS WELL AS PRIVATE TOURING AMERICAN PERFORMING GROUPS. SINCE HE HAS BEEN RECENTLY PROMOTED TO PRESENT POSITION, AN OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT AND LEARN MORE ABOUT PERFORMING ARTS AND

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CULTURAL SCENE IN U.S. WOULD GREATLY ENHANCE HIS PROFESSIONAL

COMPETENCE AND PRESTIGE AMONG HIS PEERS, THUS INSURING CONTINUED EFFECTIVE COOPERATION WITH POST. WE PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS SEE KIM VISIT THE U.S. AS HE IS ONLY UPPER ECHELON NATIONAL THEATER STAFFER WHO HAS BEEN THERE A LONG TIME AND WILL LIKELY BE THERE FOR A LONG TIME. POST EXPECTS HIM TO PLAY AN EVEN MORE IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE FUTURE.

3. BORN IN SEOUL JANUARY 20, 1935, KIM GRADUATED FROM KYUNGBOK HIGH SCHOOL, SEOUL IN MARCH 1955 AND STUDIED AT HANKUK UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN STUDIES, 1955-58. SUB-DIVISION CHIEF PERFORMING ARTS, NATIONAL THEATER, 1969-76; PRODUCER, KBS-TV (KOREA BROADCASTING SYSTEM), 1968-69; OFFICER WITH NATIONAL THEATER, 1962-68. VISITEE JAPAN IN TRAINING COURSE FOR PRODUCERS SPONSORED BY NHK-TV, NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1968. UNDERSTANDS AND SPEAKS SOME ENGLISH, BUT WILL NEED INTERPRETER FOR EFFECTIVE PROGRAMMING.

4. ESTIMATED AVAILABILITY LATE DECEMBER-JANUARY. VISA ELIGIBILITY CHECK UNDERWAY.

5. APPRECIATE RESPONSE ASAP.
SNEIDER

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